

**DeForest Area School District
Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2020 – 6:00 pm.**

1.	<p>Convene</p> <p>President Jan Berg called the November 23, 2020 regular meeting of the DeForest Area School District's Board of Education to order at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Eric Runez verified that the meeting was properly noticed.</p> <p>Board members present via remote access: Keri Brunelle, Brian Coker, Gail Lovick, Linda Leonhart, Jeff Miller, Spencer Statz, and Steve Tenpas. Board members present in person: Jan Berg and Sue Esser. Also present in person was administrator Eric Runez. Administrators participating via remote access: Rebecca Toetz, Kathy Davis, Sara Totten, Pete Wilson, Nate Jaeger and Debbie Brewster.</p>
2.	<p>Approval of the Agenda</p> <p>On a motion by Esser, seconded by Tenpas, and passed unanimously by voice vote, the agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p>Public Input</p> <p>A. Public Input -</p> <p>Present to speak about the reopening of schools was - Heidi Wall & daughter and Jody Schumacher & daughter.</p> <p>President Jan Berg, and Governance Officer, Sue Esser, read public comments that have been submitted regarding the reopening of schools from the following: Greg Gorres - DeForest Area Middle School 8th Grade Teacher, Bridgette Neubauer - Eagle Point Elementary, 1st Grade Teacher, Sara Gorres - Yahara Elementary School Teacher, Jill Bandli, Julie Hoffman, Sara Schiro, Maria Vesper - Yahara Elementary School 2nd Grade Teachers, Alyssa Keller - Eagle Point Elementary School KN Teacher on behalf of KN Team, and DeForest Area Educators Association (DAEA) Leadership Team signed by 100 teachers.</p>
4.	<p>Board Business & possible Board action</p> <p>A. Construction and Facilities Projects update and budget report with representatives from Findorff Construction</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Steve Gay, Senior Project Manager, Findorff presented an update on the progress of the construction and facilities projects. Bidding on Harvest Intermediate School was favorable and came in slightly under the proposed budget. Still targeting a completion date at the end of August 2021 for the Intermediate School. Bidding on the High School project was also favorable and came in as projected. Phase 1 of the High School project is expected to be completed in August 2021, with Phase 2 targeted for completion in March 2022, with the final phase, Phase 3 finished in August 2022. The Middle School project and Yahara Elementary also received favorable bids and the projects are all moving forward on time and within the budget.</p>

Covid protocols have been established and are being followed, and no delays in the project have resulted from complications due to the virus.

- B. Discussion of 2019 Referendum financing plan update, 2015 Referendum debt refinancing and related timeline for Board action - Brian Brewer, Managing Director, Baird Public Finance

Discussion: Brian Brewer, Managing Director, Baird Public Finance was present to discuss 2019 Referendum financing plan update, 2015 Referendum debt refinancing and related timeline for potential Board action. He provided an update on interest rates, and provided financing plan considerations that could result in minimizing total interest cost, minimize interest rate risk, and maximize investment earnings. The final borrowing of the 2019 referendum could be locked in at 2.61%, lower than the original planning rate of 5.00%. The Board will consider locking in the final financing of the 2019 Referendum, as well as a refinance of the 2015 Referendum debt if rates remain the same or lower, at the December 14, 2020 Board of Education meeting.

- C. School reopening update

Discussion: Superintendent, Eric Runez reported on school reopening. He provided an update on data from Public Health Madison Dane County (PHMDC) from November 19, 2020. He also reported on the effect of the Governor's Executive Order #10. As of last week, PHMDC has not changed their recommendations for K-2 in-person learning, but it does have an impact on athletics and activities, as well as access to district facilities. Area Superintendents are in communication with PHMDC and are optimistic that guidance for schools will be updated in several weeks.

Runez also summarized the work of the Medical Advisory Team. The team reviewed mental health screener results, local census tract data, and the District's dashboard data. They also developed a list of items for Board consideration as they discuss further reopening. They suggested a review of protocols and precautions and their effectiveness, capacity of staff for contact tracing, success of prior transitions, and capacity of the district versus set metrics. He explained that PHMDC and the Medical Advisory Team are not supportive of a virtual cooling off period during and after the winter holiday breaks. Runez recommends that any additional phasing of in-person instruction for more grades should wait until after the winter break.

- D. Presentation and possible approval of R-2 Academic Performance - Numeracy Monitoring Report

Discussion: Director of Instructional Services, Dr. Rebecca Toetz and Program Coordinator of Teaching and Learning, Kate Dabetic presented the R-2 Academic Performance - Numeracy Monitoring Report as being incomplete due to lack of available data because of the Covid pandemic. Similar to R-2 Academic Performance - Literacy Monitoring Report, iReady will be provided to the Board as it becomes available.

On a motion by Tenpas, seconded by Esser, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to accept R-2 Academic Performance -Numeracy Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.

	<p>On a motion by Coker, seconded by Statz, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve R-2 Academic Performance - Numeracy Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented, as being incomplete. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p><u>Summary Statement:</u> The Board acknowledges that due to unprecedented circumstances this report is presented and approved as incomplete. The Board requests a report on data from iReady testing as soon as it's available for review. The Board suggests a review of other assessment options as a supplement to the data that is currently available.</p> <p>E. Presentation and possible approval of OE-12 Facilities Monitoring Report</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> Director of Business & Auxiliary Services, Kathleen Davis-Phillips presented the OE-12 Facilities Board Policy Monitoring Report as being in compliance.</p> <p>On a motion by Coker, seconded by Tenpas, the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to accept OE-12, Facilities Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>On a motion by Leonhart, seconded by Esser the DeForest Area School District Board of Education voted to approve OE-12, Facilities Board Policy Monitoring Report, as presented, as being in compliance. The vote passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p><u>Summary Statement:</u> The Board supports eliminating the redundant indicators with regards to the reporting of preventative maintenance and agrees with the need for monitoring the maintenance of District outdoor spaces. Also, the Board appreciates that there has been improvement shown in the timeliness of preventative maintenance.</p>
5.	<p>Board Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Accept Minutes - November 9, 2020 B. Consider indicator revision changes for R-2, OE-6, OE-7, OE-11, & OE-12 Monitoring Reports C. Consider approval of R-2 Literacy & ELA Monitoring Report summary statement D. Consider BOE Annual Work Plan revision to move Superintendent Evaluation from Dec. 14, 2020 to January 25, 2021 <p>Tenpas made a motion, Esser seconded, to approve the Board Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
6.	<p>Superintendent Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Personnel Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Separations: Nichole Roling-Bachman - Educational Assistant WES - resignation effective 11/24/2020 II. Leaves:

	<p>Amanda Murphy - Educational Assistant YES - leave for remainder of 2020-21 school year III. Transfers: None. IV. Appointments: None. V. Reassignments: None. VI. Other: None.</p> <p>B. Vouchers Payable/Treasurer's Report Paid: 203196-203240, 202100449-202100526, 19076-19076</p> <p>Brunelle made a motion, Leonhart seconded, to approve the Superintendent's Consent Agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.</p>
7.	<p>Linkages - Berg was contacted by a school board member from Eau Claire to discuss Coherent Governance. Please let Jan know if you're interested in participating in a discussion with them about the model. Leonhart attended the Early Learning Committee meeting today.</p>
8.	<p>Press Verification No member of the press was present at this time. Attended earlier.</p>
9.	<p>Future Agenda Items - Future consideration of reopening schools - Board direction to Superintendent.</p>
10.	<p>Board Debrief</p>
11.	<p>Adjourn The Board of Education adjourned at 8:50 pm on a motion by Tenpas, seconded by Coker, and passed unanimously by voice vote.</p>
	<p>DASD BOE President Signature:</p>
	<p>Date:</p>